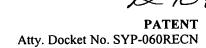
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

Vestal

SERIAL NUMBER:

09/755,951

ART UNIT: 1743

FILING DATE:

January 4, 2001

EXAMINER: Soderquist, A.

TITLE:

MASS SPECTROMETER SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR

MATRIX-ASSISTED LASER DESORPTION

MEASUREMENTS

RECEIVED

DEC 0 9 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

TC 1700

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on June 5, 2002, Applicant submits this Amendment and Response. Applicant encloses a petition and appropriate fee for a three-month extension of time for responding up to and including December 5, 2002. If any additional fees are due for this submission, the Director is authorized to charge any required fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1191.

Claims 75-98 are pending and stand rejected. Applicant amends claims 95 and 97. After entry of this Amendment, claims 75-98 will be pending for further examination. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the patentability of claims 75-98 based on the following remarks.

AMENDMENTS

To the Claims

Please amend claims 95 and 97 to read as follows.